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I Say

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I Say

Michelle Cuevas

They say we can't even speak Spanish correctly.

They say we are dark as mud.

They say we are short, that is how we are distinguished from other Mexicans.

They say we are poor.

They look down on us.

They say that we are ugly.

They say we are fat.

They say we are so stuck in our culture and question why we don't move on—forward.

They say we are useless.

They say we just come to the U.S. to take from the government.

They say we dress “funny.”

BUT...

I say we are just here looking for that “Sueño Americano” just like the rest of our raza and people from all over the world who have come looking for the same thing.

I say we are rich because we keep our culture strong.

I say our faldas y nuestros rebosos are hermosos and colorful like the arcoiris.

I say we know the difference between being happy and wanting more money.

I say nuestro dialecto is a code that gives us a powerful voice, one that can't be found anywhere else.

I say mi raza is beautiful.